

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

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TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 /112 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6710

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

:USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0572

USMISSION US NATO

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 0932

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIA'S ADMISSION TO THE "GROUP OF 77"

REF: BUCHAREST 0762

1. THE "UNANIMOUS" APPROVAL AT MANILA OF ROMANIA'S MEMBERSHIP

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IN THE "GROUP OF 77" WAS CELEBRATED HERE IN MEETING OF RCP

POLITICAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SCINTEIA FEBRUARY 13), AND FOLLOWED UP BY EXTENSIVE AND LAUDATORY COVERAGE IN CENTRAL PRESS. POLEXCO MEETING REPRESENTS SUCCESSFUL CULMINATION OF INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN AMONG THIRD WORLD STATES FOR INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF CEAUSESCU'S THESIS (OPPOSED BY SOVIETS) THAT ROMANIA IS "A SOCIALIST COUNTRY AND AT THE SAME TIME A DEVELOPING COUNTRY".

2. POLEXCO MEETING DECLARED THAT ROMANIA SHARED WITH UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD THE FACT THAT SHE "IN THE COURSE OF HER HISTORY HAS FOUGHT A GREAT BATTLE AGAINST FOREIGN OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION, FOR SOCIAL AND NATIONAL LIBERATION, FOR INDEPENDENCE", AND THAT THERE EXISTED CLOSE COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS ON ISSUES OF DOMESTIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE AND PRINCIPLE OF EQUALIZING LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT AMONG ALL STATES. SPECIAL THANKS WERE GIVEN TO LATIN AMERICAN GROUPING WITHIN "GROUP OF 77", TO WHICH ROMANIA WAS ADMITTED. PHILIPPINE EMBASSY SOURCE INFORMED EMBOFF THAT PHILIPPINES AND OTHERS HAD OPPOSED ROMANIA INITIALLY AND LATER WITHDREW OBJECTIONS TO OBSERVER STATUS, BUT EFFORTS OF LATIN AMERICANS HAD FINALLY ACHIEVED FULL MEMBERSHIP FOR GOR.

3. ALTHOUGH GOR IS DOING A BIT OF CROWING, ROMANIA'S STATUS IN EAST EUROPEAN EYES HAS NOT BEEN IMPROVED BY HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN MANILA. DESPITE GOR CLAIM THAT ROMANIA'S DUAL STATUS AS SOCIALIST COUNTRY AND DEVELOPING NATION IS IN NO WAY CONTRADICTORY, SOVIETS LEADERS CANNOT HELP BUT SEE THEMSELVES AS CHIEF TARGET OF ROMANIA'S ANTI-IMPERIALIST RHETORIC. EMBOFF DISCUSSIONS WITH POLISH AND BULGARIAN EMBASSY SOURCES ON FEBRUARY 18 EVINced MIXTURE OF DISDAIN AND WONDER AT ROMANIAN ACTIVITIES, DISAPPROVAL OF UNILATERAL ROMANIAN DEMARCHES TOWARD THIRD WORLD, AND QUESTIONS WHY GOR WOULD GO SO FAR AS TO ANTAGONIZE SOVIETS WITHOUT REASONABLE PROMISE OF THIRD-WORLD ADVANTAGES. POLISH SOURCE SAID THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WOULD NOT TAKE UNITED ACTION AGAINST GOR ON THIS ISSUE, REGARDING IT AS PURELY SOVIET PROBLEM, BUT GOR SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR SOME KIND OF SOVIET RECRIMINATION.

4. COMMENT: IN PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS, ROMANIA IS TRYING TO SHOW THAT SHE IS AS MUCH A MEMBER OF DEVELOPING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORLD AS OF SOCIALIST BLOC. ROMANIA'S RECOGNITION AS ECONOMICALLY DEVELOPING NATION ALSO IMPLIES MOVEMENT INTO CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH POLITICALLY NON-ALIGNED ONES, AS ITS EFFORTS TO UPGRADE STATUS AT UPCOMING COLOMBO CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED STATES PORTEND. PHILIPPINE SOURCE CONTENTED THAT ROMANIA'S CHANCES FOR ADMISSION TO THAT BODY MAY HAVE BEEN IMPROVED BY "GROUP OF 77" VICTORY, BUT ARE STILL SLIM UNLESS GROUND RULES PROHIBITING BLOC MEMBERS ARE CHANGED. MORE VIGOROUS OPPOSITION TO FULL GOR MEMBER-

SHIP AT COLOMBO IS EXPECTED (BUCHAREST 0762). INCIDENTLY,
SCINTEIA FEBRUARY 20 REPORTED THAT BURUNDI FONMIN, IN TOWN FOR
TALKS, HAD PROMISED SUPPORT FOR GOR AS OBSERVER AT COLOMBO.
THE GREATER THE
ROMANIAN EFFORT TO INSINUATE HERSELF INTO NON-SOCIALIST BLOC
GROUPINGS, INCLUDING BALKAN GROUP, THE MORE MANIFEST WILL BE
REACTION AGAINST ROMANIA WITHIN SOVIET BLOC. HOWEVER, YUGOSLAV
EMBOFF HAS MADE POINT THAT SOVIETS CLEARLY PREFER ACTING THROUGH
SUCH SURROGATES AS CUBANS IN HAMSTRINGING ROMANIAN DESIGNS THAN
TAKING ONUS OF DIRECT BULLYING.
BARNES

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